

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 CU-04

DRC-01 /092 W

----- 052404

R 101500Z SEP 73

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2965

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0818

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SF

SUBJ: POSSIBLE FEDERATION OF NORTHERN TRANSVAAL HOMELANDS

1. LEBOWA INTERIOR MINISTER COLLIN RAMUSSI TOLD CONGEN SEPT 8 THAT EFFORTS BEING MADE TO FORM A FEDERATION OF TRANSVAAL HOMELANDS. AGREEMENT REACHED ON THIS BETWEEN LEBOWA GOVERNMENT & EXPECTED NEW VENDA INDEPENDENCE PARTY GOVERNMENT OF VENDA HOMELAND (JOHANNESBURG 817). RAMUSSI SAID GAZANKULU CHIEF MINISTER NTSANWISI HAS NOT COMMITTED HIMSELF ON PROJECT, IN PART AT LEAST BECAUSE OF GAZANKULU ELECTIONS LATER IN YEAR. HE THOUGHT BOPHUTHATSWANA CHIEF MINISTER MANGOPE DIFINITELY NOT PREPARED TO GO ALONG AT THIS STAGE.

2. ASKED WHETHER SAG WOULD NOT OBJECT TO AND PREVENT FORMATION OF PROPOSED FEDERATION, RAMUSSI PROFESSED NOT TO BE CONCERNED AT THIS POSSIBILITY. HE STATED THAT WHILE MINISTER M.C. BOTHA HAD BEEN VERY TOUGH IN HIS FIRST MEETING WITH NEW LEBOWA CABINET, HE WAS MUCH SOFTER AND EASIER TO DEAL WITH IN SUBSEQUENT SESSION.

3. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER RAMUSSI WHO IS RATHER FLAMBOYANT, FREE-WHEELING INDIVIDUAL, IS ACTUALLY SPEAKING FOR

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LEBOWA GOVERNMENT OR HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN PERSONAL, UNAUTHORIZED

NEGOTIATIONS WITH HIS OLD FRIEND MUDAU OF VENDA HOMELAND.
DEPARTMENT MIGHT FIND IT USEFUL TO QUERY LEBOWA CHIEF MINISTER
PHATUDI ON SUBJECT WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON IN COURSE OF
UPCOMING LEADER GRANT VISIT. DECON 12/31/73.
LUTKINS

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